THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

phoenixdragon1690

Welcome back to the Dragonet Prophecy Reread. This week we're covering chapters 4 through 6, in which Morrowseer makes an appearance and the timeline for the dragonets' escape is abruptly moved way up.

This reread may contain SPOILERS for any and all Wings of Fire books. If you have not finished the series, read ahead at your own peril.

SUMMARY
Chapter 4: Morrowseer arrives at the cave, all darkness and danger, and immediately expresses his disapproval of Glory. Tsunami tells Morrowseer about how the guardians have been mistreating them, and Kestrel and Dune yell at her for it; without warning, Morrowseer attacks her. Tsunami and Clay fight back, and, to his surprise, Sunny. Deeming those three somewhat acceptable, he takes Starflight into the next room to talk. The guardians all immediately yell at Tsunami again, and then leave to talk themselves. Clay and Sunny ask Glory if she's feeling alright, and, feigning indifference to how she's been treated, she stalks off to take a nap. Clay asks Sunny what she'd think of escaping, and she tells him that everything will be alright if they follow the prophecy, but Clay thinks to himself that a real prophecy would have included Glory.

Chapter 5: When Starflight returns from his talk with Morrowseer, he's very upset; talking to him, Clay decided that he needs to go spy on the guardians. Before he can do that, however, they hear Sunny telling someone to stop, and rush to the main room in time to see the guardians chaining Tsunami to a column of rock. Morrowseer leaves, and Tsunami rebelliously begins singing the dragonets' song at the top of their lungs, until Kestrel threatens to chain up one of the other dragonets. Clay hurries off to spy on the guardians from the river as the head off to their cave, and he learns that they plan to kill Glory.

Chapter 6: Clay tells the other dragonets what the guardians plan to do; all of them agree that they have to escape, except Glory, who believes she can take care of herself. All of them have ideas about how to do it, even Sunny, who only just learned about this, but nothing they come up with will work--until Tsunami reluctantly proposes her plan to swim out through the river and open the door from the other side. She doesn't want to let Clay go, and insists that it was supposed to be her, since she can breathe underwater, but she eventually relents. Glory uses her super RainWing chameleon powers to disappear, and Clay prepares to enter the river.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
"Clay wished his own wings were as vast as the cavern itself so he could hide his friends from Morrowseer. He wished his talons were as huge as the stalagmites and as sharp as the rock shards. He wished he were big enough to be brave and brave enough to be big. He'd never wanted anything so much as he wanted to protect his friends from this tall, hissing, scornful, immensely dangerous dragon."

There's an echo of this in *Moon Rising*, near the beginning of chapter 18. I'm not gonna quote it here, but I thought that was interesting.

THE DRAGONETS
Ever-independent Glory, insisting that the other dragonets don't have to get involved and pretending she doesn't care that everyone hates her for being a RainWing and always faking calmness. Tsunami's being her lovely fierce self, doing her best to rebel against the guardians. And Sunny is trying just as hard as the

others to come up with a good idea, despite the fact that she didn't even know they were escaping until that conversation, plus jumping into the fight against Morrowseer just as readily as Clay and Tsunami (and actually remembering where the weak spot is)--have I mentioned I adore Sunny?

Oh, and Starflight, reading to calm down. We're in the same boat there, buddy.

WORLDBUILDING
"...About as likely as a world ruled by scavengers instead of dragons." Haha!

BIOLOGY AND CULTURE
Lots of information on NightWings here. SkyWing fire-hiss again. Also Kestrel's fire is hot enough to melt metal.

"It's not natural, that much loyalty in a dragon. Especially to dragons outside your own tribe." ~Dune (if anyone wants to discuss the cultural implications of this I will gladly join in)

'Shades of flame around her feathery ears" is apparently a hint that Glory's upset--and other RainWings, I'd guess. Glory naps every day after lunch, "probably for some Rainwing reason." Her scales go pale green when Clay tells them that the guardians want to kill her. And she does her invisibility thing.

Lots of ear twitching and flicking, I like that. Makes 'em seem like actual nonhuman creatures. Also tail twining and wing-brushing. Every tribe has a weak spot near the end of their tail. Starflight curls up with his tail over his nose? There is apparently a scroll titled *The Sluglike Qualities of MudWings.*

For the "Wait, are they quadrupeds or not?" debate: "[Starflight] stepped around Glory, stood up on his back legs, and tapped on the boulder that blocked the entrance."

For the "Do RainWing eyes change color?" debate: "She closed her eyes and vanished." … "Her green eyes appeared again, halfway across the cave."
On that note, do RainWing *mouths* change color? Seriously, they keep talking while invisible and apparently nobody can see the insides of their mouths?

COMMENTARY
Okay, so this is the first readthrough I noticed this on, but Dune and especially Kestrel are legit abusive. Any one of the things they do to Tsunami in this chapter would land them in jail in our society, and the way they treat Glory even *before* they decide she needs to be killed…yeesh. Surely there's *someone* in the Talons of Peace who'd be a better parent than those two.

And on a lighter note: "THINK ABOUT COWS THINK ABOUT COWS THINK ABOUT COWS…."

TUI'S ANNOTATIONS
Welp, the archived version of this is apparently now blocked on my computer. If somebody else wants to write up a summary or something, there's a link on the book's wiki page.

The one bit of this I remember from last time I read through it was, at the end of chapter 4, when Sunny bats at the stalactites--that's apparently a way she measures her growth, like Clay trying to push the boulder.

Well, that's all for this week. Join us next week as Clay escapes through the underground river!

Previous reread: /317151 Index: /317770

☆
6

Such is the path of a dreamer: I find my way by moonlight.

~Oncilla~

Queen of Non Sequitur, Bookwyrms, Pangolins, and Bones

Trash Squad, Werewolf, GASTER FOLLOWER

Writer, roleplayer, nerd

WoFMBer Dec. 2014-Mar. 2019

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

autumnlibrarian16

The "THINK ABOUT COWS" part was actually one of my favorite moments

As usual, I enjoyed reading through this!

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Autumn [**L**ibrarian]
she/her - nerd - gamer
"If you make a mistake and do not
correct it, that is a second mistake."
Homethread: /304740

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

fairydragon1798

Another amazing chapter reread by Oncilla!

I love reading your commentary. When you finish TDP, will you do the other books as well?

And I could write the annotations if you like.

0

~Fairydragon~
She/Her

We *will* never *be forgotten*
for we've all played our parts
and if the memories are erased
they'll still be in our hearts

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

phoenixdragon1690

I plan to do the other books.

And yeah, could you? That'd be really helpful.

0

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fairydragon1798

I probably won't be able to post them until about 9 or 10 Pacific time, but they'll be posted by tomorrow.

Unless something happens that makes me unable to post them, or I simply forget...

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THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

phoenixdragon1690

poke

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fairydragon1798

"... about as likely as a world ruled by scavengers instead of dragons." ~ Clay, thinking about the NightWings

In this part Tui says "Ha ha! See what I did there? ;-)"

"Clay wished his own wings were as vast as the cavern itself so he could hide his friends from Morrowseer. He wished his talons were as huge as the stalagmites and sharp as the rock shards. He wished he was big enough to be brave and brave enough to be big. He'd never wanted anything so much as he wanted to protect his friends from this tall, hissing, scornful, immensely dangerous dragon." ~ Clay, when they first meet Morrowseer

In this part Tui says "This is the core of Clay - loyal and protective."

"*Think about cows think about cows think about delicious fat cows..."* ~ Clay, trying to avoid having his mind read

Here, Tui says "(This is also the core of Clay - hungry!)"

"Only the shades of flame around her feathery ears hinted that she was upset."~ Glory, when Morrowseer... um... upset her

In this part, she says "I have a list of what various colors mean, emotionally, when they show up on a RainWing's scales. I think this is our first clue that they do this (change colors when the dragon feels something strongly)- another way they differ from chameleons."

""It's not her fault she's small." Starflight chimed in, to Clay's surprise." ~ When Morrowseer insults Sunny for being too small

Tui says: "There are some things that can make Starflight brave..."

""All we know about this world we're supposed to save is what we've read in scrolls."" ~ Tsunami, arguing with Morrowseer

Tui: "That's a question I thought would be interesting... how can you feel invested in saving a world you barely know?"

"Neither had Starflight" ~ Glory and Starflight not moving when Morrowseer attacked Tsunami

Tui:"But for different reasons. Starflight was terrified, poor dragon. Glory, on the other talon, could tell that Morrowseer was testing them, and she didn't feel like playing along. Why should she have to prove herself to this strange NightWing? Is basically her stance on this situation, and almost all situations, really."

"Couldn't Morrowseer hear everyone thinking about how Clay was going to let them all down?" ~ Clay, when Morrowseer approves of him

Tui: "Aw, Clay, no one is thinking that! Maybe Kestrel, but what does she know?"

""She wasn't in a clutch of eggs - I found her egg alone, buried out in the desert."" ~ Dune, about Sunny's egg

Tui: "There's definitely more to THAT story, Dune."

"Tsunami threw herself into the river and sank to the bottom in a stream of furious bubbles, where she curled up with her talons over her head." ~ Tsunami, after Morrowseer went to talk with the guardians

Tui: "One advantage Tsunami has here - she's pretty much the only one who can storm off to her room and metaphorically slam the door, since no one can go bother her down there. (Well, Clay, but he's smart enough not to!)."

"It was as if nothing bothered her at all." ~ Clay, about Glory

Tui: "Right. That's definitely what's going on here."

"Glory fell asleep every day, after lunch, for a couple of hours..." ~ Clay, about Glory

Tui: "Personally, I'm all in favor of naps. People AND dragons should sleep when they're tired! Sleep is the most important thing! So I'm not judging you, Glory, even if the guardians are."

"...some RainWing reason." ~ about Glory's naps

Tui: "This is one of the most important questions in the series - what will these dragons be like who've been taken away from their families/tribes and natural enviroments? How much of their behavior is learned and how much is instinctive? (Nature vs. nurture, basically). Clay is right- there's a RainWing reason for these naps, just lie a SeaWing needs to be in the water as much as possible. But Glory doesn't know what it is (yet), and in many other ways she's completely different from most RainWings, because she grew up out here instead."

""I don't think *everything* is exiting!" Sunny flapped her wings. "But you guys don't think *enough* things are exiting.""

Tui: "This kind of sums up my entire worldview right here. (Altough I'm also on Glory's side that waking me from a nap better be for an extremely good reason!)"

"Her claws batted at the tip of the lowest stalactite, but she was still too small to reach it. She sat back down with a frustrated sigh." ~ Sunny

Tui: "I tried not to make this too obvious, but this scene of Sunny trying to reach the stalactites is like the equivalent of Clay pushing on the boulder that blocks the the tunnel to the outside. Like many of us, these dragonets can't wait to grow up, particularly so because in this case, it'll mean freedom at last. So they all have little hopeful habits like this to help them gauge how much they're growing, but especially Sunny (the smallest), and Clay (the biggest, who feels responsible for all the others).

2

~Fairydragon~
She/Her

We *will* never *be forgotten*

for we've all played our parts
and if the memories are erased
they'll still be in our hearts

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

fairydragon1798

Oh, wow, and that was only chapter 6...

0

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phoenixdragon1690

Awesome, thanks. Wow, she pointed out a lot of the same stuff as me...

0

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Trash Squad, Werewolf, GASTER FOLLOWER

`Writer, roleplayer, nerd`

WoFMBer Dec. 2014-Mar. 2019

cleverdragon364

Ooo I'd be interested to hear your thoughts on the cultural implications of that Dune quote

0

***Clever,** A Very Clevery Guy* ❤❤❤
[exits, pursued by a bear]
bringing you cool good posts: Dec. 2014 - March 2019
appreciating and supporting you: today - forever!!!!

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

phoenixdragon1690

Let's see...

Obviously none of the dragons (except the DoD of course) trust dragons from other tribes, this is a well-known fact, but the "especially"...that implies that they don't even trust their *own* tribemates. Which I suppose makes sense for SandWings, since they're in the middle of a civil war; probably every dragon in the tribe knows someone who's on another side. Probably they're even fighting family members, which makes loyalty hard. And SkyWings have suffered nearly as much under Queen Scarlet.

I guess it's just another way of showing that this is a really broken world that desperately needs this war to end, and that's why the dragonets are so important.

2

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THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

fairydragon1798

Whoops.

It seems like I *might* have forgotten to do chapters 4 and 5...

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THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 4-6 | Oncilla

fairydragon1798

Chapter 4 annotations:

"He sat down in the middle of their cave, his wings askew behind him, and started poking through the scrolls on the floor." ~ about Starflight, after he talks with Morrowseer

Tui: "Aw, poor Starflight. This is another aspect of me that I decided to give to him - that when I'm upset, I go find a book to read."

""It's over here." Clay said,..." ~ this comes right after that last sentence about Starflight

Tui: " Also, I wanted this moment to show how well Clay knows Starflight...not only can he see that his friend is upset, but he knows exactly what his coping mechanism is."

"*Tales of the NightWings* was Starflight's favorite scroll, and he always read it when he was upset or fighting with one of the other dragonets."

Tui: "I'm not much of a rereader, so I don't have my own "Tales of the NightWings," but I thought Starflight would be. If I did have to choose a book to reread that often, it would probably be To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee, or Watership Down by Richard Adams, or Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech - all favorites of mine that I've read more than twice and always love."

"'Don't worry about the RainWing. I'll take care of it.'" ~ Starflight, repeating what Morrowseer said

Tui: " Uh-oh!"

"He couldn't see the guardians just releasing Glory, not after all the years of secrecy." ~ Clay, thinking about Glory after Starflight tells him she might be able to go home

Tui: "For once, Clay is being smarter than Starflight here - although, to be fair, Starflight just had a really difficult conversation and learned some things he wasn't ready to know, so he's not thinking much about anyone else. Clay isn't book-smart, but he has a sense of the personalities around him...so he's right; the guardians can't let Glory go and risk her leading someone back to the cave."

""Actually, tiny SandWing," Morrowseer rumbled, "the dragonet you should believe in is Starflight over there." He nodded at Starflight, still rooted in place by the sleeping cave. Starflight ducked his head. "NightWings are natural leaders. You do what he says, and you'll be all right.""

Tui: "Wishful thinking, Morrowseer. Wishful thinking. (Or straight-up rewriting the world to suit his own narrative, really. Which isn't going to work out very well for him.)

""But dragonets don't know what's best for them,"..." ~Dune, as the other guardians chain Tsunami

Tui: "Yowch. Just what every teenager wants to hear, right?"

""You were all just awful today"" ~ Kestrel, after Morrowseer leaves

Tui: "No, YOU were!"

"*"Oh, the dragonets are coming! They're coming to save the day! They're coming to fight, for they know what's right, the dragonets, hooray!"*" ~ Tsunami

Tui: "Oh, yes, not only does this world have books, it also has music, including rousing semi-ridiculous songs sung by rowdy wistful dragons in pubs. P.S. Yes, I have a version of this song in my head and I could sing it for you, but we'd all regret it if I did!"

""Or we could chain up one of your friends,"" ~ Kestrel

Tui: "The quickest way to manipulate dragonets - threatening their friends."

"Her tail was coiled up in a knot beside her." ~ about Kestrel, when the guardians are talking about killing Glory

Tui: "Hopefully you can tell that Kestrel is not completely loving her assignment - her body language is telling a different story from the words coming out of her mouth. She cares a lot more than she'd let on...maybe about Glory specifically, or maybe just about the memories echoing up from her past."

""...No colorful sustitutions."" ~ Kestrel, about Morrowseer getting a SkyWing dragonet

Tui: "As my kids would say, "It's a pun!" Get it? Because she's a RainWing? Hardy har har."

""I joined the Talons of Peace to *stop* killing dragons,"" ~ Webs, about killing Glory

Tui: "We get much of Webs's backstory in book 2, but this pretty much sums it up."

""...I mean, we all know what happened-"" ~ Webs, about Kestrel

Tui: "And in another hundred pages, we'll all know as well!"

"*How do I save her?*" ~ Clay, thinking about how to save Glory

Tui: "I initially thought the dragonets would try to escape just because they didn't like being trapped underground and told what to do. But as I wrote it, I realized they needed a more compelling reason - a much more urgent reason that could propel them out of here right now, and that's where this threat on Glory's life came from."

☆
3

~Fairydragon~
She/Her

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fairydragon1798

Oops, those 'Chapter 6' annotations were actually from chapter 4...

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fairydragon1798

Chapter 5 annotations:

""You don't have to get involved," said Glory "This is my problem, not yours."" ~ Glory

Tui: "Oh, Glory."

""...He has a stone that fits in this slot." He tapped a grooved niche in the stone wall. "He turns it in here to unlock something so they can roll the boulder from inside the cave. But when Kestrel or Webs come from outside, there must be a lever or switch they use to open it from out there."" ~ Starflight, about the boulder to the outside

Tui: "I spent a long time trying to figure out the mechanism for keeping a boulder locked in place, including drawing little diagrams and asking people with more scientific brains than mine. In the end I like that this makes sense (it was my husband's suggestion!) and also makes Clay feel like such a doofus for not noticing it before - poor guy!"

"Tsunami interrupted her." ~ about Tsunami, interrupting Sunny

Tui: "The story of Sunny's life!"

""Stop that," Tsunami snapped at her. "Acting like a martyr won't help right now."" ~ Tsunami, snapping at Glory

Tui: "This is another instance where adding conflict also made these characters so much more interesting - they're snapping at each other, but what they're fighting about is wanting to protect the other one, because they care about each other so much."

""Oh, Sunny, don't be ridiculous," Tsunami said." ~ when Sunny suggests flying out of the sky hole

Tui: "Also the story of Sunny's life. I have enormous sympathy for Sunny, if you can't tell. Nobody takes her seriously!"

""What if we tried talking to them?" Sunny offered hesitantly." ~ Sunny, about asking the guardians to let Glory go

Tui: "Sunny does have good ideas sometimes, but their unifying fatal flaw is that she has a lot more faith in the goodness of other dragons than anyone else. I mean, I think she's right that most dragons have good in them somewhere, but I'm afraid that side of them won't always win out."

"...the shocked expression on Starflight's face." ~ when Glory suggests burning the scrolls

Tui: "This would be me. Burn our BOOKS?! Are you CRAZY?!"

""Act like a lump and hope no one notices you?"" ~ Tsunami, when Glory suggests using 'Starflight's Method'

Tui: "Heh heh, poor Starflight; this is totally what he does."

☆ 2

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fairydragon1798

No, wait...

Yup, they're in order.

The incoming post that says 'chapter 5 annotations' is actually from chapter 6, just so you know.

☆ 0

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phoenixdragon1690

On a semi-related note: I will never understand the Morrowseer-loving part of the fandom. Saving your tribe is, like, not a good excuse for ordering Glory killed?? Or anyone who's not actively trying to undermine your tribe for that matter?

(For those of you who are fairly new around here: a couple years ago, there was a small-but-vocal minority of the fandom that insisted that both Morrowseer and Whirlpool were a) not dead, and b) actually good guys. They were more active on the wiki than here, but I haven't seen them either place in a long time.

I think they've mostly been replaced by the Darkstalker-lovers (who IMO have a much more understandable position, even though I don't agree with them--but that's a discussion for another time.))

☆ 3

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cleverdragon364

And in response to that semi-related note, I am so sorry to absolutely everyone in existence that I used to be one of *those* fans. Yikes.

☆ 0

***Clever,* *A Very Clevery Guy* ❤❤❤**
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fairydragon1798

The chapter 6 annotations are the second post that says 'chapter 5 annotations'.

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